

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2315	(9)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	31-8-	18.76	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 699. Read the following letter from Major H. R. MEAD, R.E., District Engineer, South Arcot, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Cuddalore, 8th August 1876, No. 83:—

I HAVE the honor to forward, at the request of Subroya Charriar, Assistant Engineer, the enclosed letter regarding G.O., No. 1,794, of the 17th July last, in which he is blamed for the excess of expenditure over estimate for the works of Thorapady tank-supply channel, in which he requests that he may be exonerated from blame, as he states the rates were seriously enhanced by the great demand for labor and materials for the Palar bridge.

From G. SUBROYA CHARRIAR, Assistant Engineer, South Arcot, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Veradachalam, 5th August 1876, No. 153.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt, through my present District Engineer, of the G.O., No. 1,794, of the 17th July 1876, blaming me for the excess caused over the estimate for the works of the Thorapady tank-supply channel at Vellore, and referring the matter for your kind attention.

2. I beg also respectfully to premise that in submitting this the following explanation I do not do it in any spirit of insubordination, and that I respectfully submit to the verdict of my superiors; but that I think I will be failing in duty if I do not bring all the circumstances for your kind consideration.

3. First, as regards the supply-channel the excess is due mainly to extra work repeatedly done to repair the damages done to the channel by floods in 1874. The work was sanctioned in May 1874, but yet orders were issued for the commencement of the channel repair much earlier (I believe in February or March), and therefore much of its work was done before the May and subsequent floods. These occurrences were reported, as far as I was concerned, in time to the District Engineer, and sanction received for the extra work rendered so necessary.

4. As regards the masonry works referred to in the second and third works. The year 1874 was memorable for heavy rains and repeated floods. This state of the year rendered it impracticable to proceed much with the masonry works before March 1875, when the demand for the labor and materials required for the Palar bridge-works suddenly enhanced their prices very much. For the bridge-works the District Engineer himself personally called for tenders and settled their prices without any reference to me. Upon this I foresaw what would be the consequences, and appealed to him to engage suppliers also for my works at Vellore. But to my misfortune he was not pleased to notice it and left me to myself. The result was that my resources were turned off, and I had no other alternative but to meet my way in the same manner. The bricks and chunam that were previously obtained at 2½ Rupees and 4 Annas, respectively, had to be purchased at 3½ Rupees and 8 Annas, respectively. The work was also carried out departmentally in which Overseer Serjeant Kelly's inefficient supervision rendered the matter still worse. Captain Pennycuik and Mr. Leggatt are both well aware how indifferently he worked under me. This Overseer was once banished from me, but again unfortunately forced upon me notwithstanding the protest I made to Mr. Leggatt then, and under this Overseer these works fared so poorly. My complaint regarding this Overseer was not noticed in the manner it ought to have been.

5. Again, this was not the only work at Vellore that suffered for the same causes. The District Engineer had also to submit before to Government the comparative statement for the sub-jail works in the Vellore fort, when he was kind enough to exonerate me from all blame, for the excess even on that work was caused for the same reasons; yet I cannot now understand why Captain Pennycuik has attached blame to me when the present excess is also purely due to the one and the same reason.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st August 1876. No. 2,315.

6. It is also stated that similar causes have not operated so badly in the Wallajah Range. To this I beg respectfully to submit that the two cases are different. The Palar bridge-works were quite in proximity with my heavy works at Vellore, whilst the Palar anicut-works were not so with the other works of the Wallajah Range. Again, a kind reference to previous schedules will show the rates in the Wallajah Range were already higher. If I remember right, the rate of brick-work for the Thorapady works was Rupees 3½ a cubic yard, whilst at the bridge it was 5½. Therefore, was it practicable for me to carry out works at two different rates in one and the same place? Besides, the increase was only for the town works and not for the taluq works where I did my utmost to keep them from rising.

7. I extremely regret that it is my misfortune that I am not now in Vellore in order that I may base my explanation more upon details and supported by necessary documents, as it is not easy now to recollect all the transactions. In case the above explanation is considered not ample, I should respectfully solicit your kindness to send me to Vellore for a few days to enable me to draw out the necessary details for your kind consideration, inasmuch as I will get little by mere references to that Office, my successor being fresh to the range and the office-people not quite intelligent to lay their hands on just the papers I will require.

8. In conclusion, I humbly trust you will be pleased to consider all the circumstances and see grounds to exonerate me from blame.

No. 700.

ORDER THEREON, 31st August 1876, No. 2,315.

IRRIGATION, No. 73-A.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.
Spare Copies

Memorandum

The reason for suggesting simply
the recording of Assistant Engineer
Sobhaya Chariar's reply to G.O. No
1794 of the 17th July last was that
I did not consider the part of it
referring to rates altogether satisfactory
and Captain Pennycook leaving
Guntur informed his opinion thereon
could not be obtained. It did
not seem advisable willingly to
lead to a definite conclusion to
refer the explanation to the present
District Engineer with a view to
report, and the Assistant Engineer
being now in South Arcot working
under another Officer, the value of his
services will be in due course reported
on

24/8/76
Gmm

Handwritten text at the top of the left page, possibly a date or reference number.

Handwritten text on the left page, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side.

5/1

10/10

150

Virudachalam D. Office, South Arcot
Virudachalam. 5th August 76.

V

General G. W. Walker R. E.
Chief Engineer P. W. D.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of
my present District Engineer of the G. O. No. 1794
of the 17th July 1876 & amine for the excess
caused over the estimate for the work of the Shorapoy
Sank Supply Channel ^{at Bellam} and referring the matter for
your kind attention.

2. I beg also respectfully to premise that in
submitting this, the following explanation I do not
do it in any spirit of insubordination and that
I respectfully submit to the verdict of my
superiors, but that I think I will be failing in
duty if I do not bring all the circumstances
for your kind consideration.

3. I wish, as regards the Supply Channel,
the excess is due mainly to extra work repeatedly
done to repair the damages done to the Channel
by floods in 1874. The work was sanctioned
in May 1874, but yet orders were issued for
the commencement of the Channel repair much
earlier (I believe in February or March) and
therefore much of its work was done before
the May and subsequent floods. These
occurrences were reported as far as I was
concerned in time to the District Engineer and
Sanction

Sanction reserved for the extra work rendered
so necessary.

4. As regards the masonry works
referred to in the 2^d and 3^d works - The year 1874
was remarkable for heavy rains and repeated
floods. This state of the year rendered it impractic-
able to proceed much with the masonry works
before March 1875, when the demand for
the labor and materials required for the
Palas Bridge works suddenly enhanced
their prices very much. For the Bridge
works, the District Engineer himself
personally called for tender and settled
their prices without any reference to me.
Upon this I foresaw what would be the
consequences and appealed to him to engage
suppliers also for my works at Vellore.
(But to my misfortune, he was not pleased
to notice it and left me to my self. The result
was that my resources were turned off and
I had no other alternative but to meet my way
in the same manner. The bricks and Churnam
that were previously obtained at 2½ P^{rs} and
4 annas respectively had to be purchased
at 3½ P^{rs} and 8 annas respectively. The work
was also carried out defectively in which
Overseer Sergeant Kelly's inefficient supervision
rendered the matter still worse. Captain Prynne
and Mr. Leggett are both well as are how
indifferently he worked under me. This
Overseer was once banished from me, but
again

again unfortunately forced upon me notwithstanding
the protest I made to Mr. Leggett there; &
under this Overseer these works were done so poorly.
My complaint regarding this Overseer was not
noticed in the manner it ought to have been.

5. Again this was not the only work
at Vellore that suffered from the same causes.
The District Engineer had also to submit before
to Government the comparative statement for
the sub-jail works in the Vellore Fort
when he was kind enough to exonerate me
from all blame for the excess now on
that work was caused for the same reasons.
yet I cannot now understand why
Captain Prynne has attached blame to
me when the present excess is also purely
due to the one and same reason.

6. It is also stated that similar causes
have not operated so badly in the Wallajah
Range. So this I beg respectfully to submit
that the 2 cases are different. The Palas
Bridge works were quite in proximity
to the my heavy works at Vellore so that
the Palas masonry works were not so with
the other works of the Wallajah Range. Again,
a kind reference to previous Schedules will
show the rates in the Wallajah Range were
already higher. If I remember right,
the rate of brickwork for the Choragady
works was P^{rs} 3½ a cub yard while
at the Bridge it was 5¼. Therefore it
is not practicable ^{for one} to carry out works at 2 different
rates in one and the same place. Besides the

increase was only for the town works and not for the Salug works where I did my utmost to keep them from rising.

7. I extremely regret that it is my misfortune that I am not now in Vellore in order that I may base my explanation more upon details and supported by necessary documents, as it is not easy now to recollect all the transactions. In case the above explanation is considered not ample I should respectfully solicit your kindness to send me to Vellore for a few days to enable me to draw out the necessary details for your kind consideration in as much as I will get little by mere reference to that office, my successor being fresh to the Range and the office people not quite intelligent to lay their hands on just the papers I will require.

8. In conclusion I humbly trust you will be pleased to consider all the circumstances and see grounds to exonerate me from blame.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant

H. Subramanian
Assistant Engineer

P.W.D.

11 AUG 76

No 5751

D. P. W.
SOUTH ARCOT.

No 83

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Camp

Dated

8th August 1876

From

The District Engineer,
South Arcot.

To

The

Chief Engineer
D.P.W.

Enclosures

Sir,

1 Letter

I have the honor to forward at the request of Subroya Chariar Assistant Engineer, the enclosed letter regarding G. O. No. 1794 of the 17th July last, in which he is blamed for the excess of expenditure over estimate for the works of Thorapady Sanku Supply Channel, in which he requests that he may be exonerated from blame as he states the rates were seriously enhanced by the great demand for labour and materials for the Palas Bridge.

I have the honor to be

Sir,
Yours most obedient servant
M. M. M. M. S. R. E.
District Engineer

P.W.D.
11 AUG 76
No. 5751

Both are fully considered.
 Satisfaction - if in old it
 will be 100% and new

No 2315 of 31st Aug 1876.
Received

19/8

12699-700
 Pacu - 25.8.76 - Mtd. 28.8.76
 Gm - 26.8.76 - Mtd 28.8.76
 Deep to 11-8-76

of
 To travelling Assistant
 Surgeon & Physician, Charing
 Cross & Westminster
 with the 1st & 2nd Regiments
 over the Channel for the
 winter of 1815. His kind
 & friendly remembrance
 from the West District,

SOUTH ARCOT D. P. W.
 From **1**
 The District Engineer
 South Arcot.
 To
 The
 Chief Engineer
 A. B. H.
 Dated
 28/3
 Despatched 9/4
 Received 11/4
 11/4
 11/4

575

Gobt. of 1876 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd

Encl.

G. O., 5th August 1876, No.

23/5

Nos.

699-700

Ent. in Reg.
18-9-76

Sribeoga Chariar
Assistant Engineer

Letter from the D. Engr.
South Arcot, submitting
the explanation of —
in connection with the ex-
cessive ~~increase~~ over the
original Estimate for the
improvements to the Thura
pandy Tank &c in the
Taluk of P. R. P. R.

4.5